

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 202609
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-02 ONY-00 SSO-00 SS-15 /032 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/PAN:JPBECKER:ZC
APPROVED BY ARA/PAN:EJNADEAU
S/AB:AMBASSADOR POPPER
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
S/AB, ARA/PAN, ARA ONLY
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 202609

STADIS/////////////////////////////////
FOR WYROUGH FROM AMBASSADOR POPPER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, PN

SUBJECT: PANAMA CANAL TREATY NEGOTIATIONS: FEDERAL
AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

1. THE DRAFT NOTE WHICH FOLLOWS CONCERNING THE FUTURE
OPERATIONS OF FAA IS A PRELIMINARY DRAFT WHICH HAS NOT BEEN
FULLY CLEARED IN THE DEPARTMENT OR WITH OTHER AGENCIES, IN-
CLUDING THE FAA. WE ARE PROVIDING IT FOR YOUR CONSID-
ERATION AND ANY COMMENTS YOU OR THE EMBASSY MAY HAVE.
UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD YOU MAKE IT AVAILABLE TO
THE REPRESENTATIVES OF PANAMA.

2. BEGIN TEXT I HAVE THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE PANAMA
CANAL TREATY SIGNED THIS DATE BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA AND IN
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THAT CONNECTION WISH TO INFORM YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT
UPON ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE SAID TREATY THE UNITED
STATES PROPOSES TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THE AIR TRAFFIC
CONTROL SERVICES WHICH THE UNITED STATES HAS PROVIDED UNDER
ARTICLE XV OF THE 1949 UNITED STATES-PANAMA AIR AGREEMENT.

3. AS IN THE PAST, PERSONNEL OF THE FEDERAL AVIATION

ADMINISTRATION WILL CONTINUE TO PERFORM THESE FUNCTIONS. UPON ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE PANAMA CANAL TREATY, THE PANAMA OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION, WILL BECOME AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY TO THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA IN A MANNER SIMILAR TO OTHER AGENCIES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICAN OPERATING IN THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR.

4. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ASSUMES THAT, WITH THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE PANAMA CANAL TREATY, THE GOVERNMENT OF PANAMA WILL WISH TO CONSIDER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL CAPABILITY OF ITS OWN. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED TO ASSIST IN THIS EFFORT BY TRAINING PANAMANIAN CITIZENS AND OFFERING SUCH OTHER ASSISTANCE AS MAY BE APPROPRIATE. PRECISE TRAINING PROGRAMS WILL BE AGREED UPON BY OUR TWO COUNTRIES NOT MORE THAN ONE YEAR AFTER THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE PANAMA CANAL TREATY. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES ESTIMATES THAT THIS TRAINING PROCESS WILL TAKE FIVE TO TEN YEARS. THE PRESENCE OF THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION IN PANAMA WILL THEREFORE BE LIMITED TO THIS PERIOD.

5. UNTIL SUCH TIME AS PANAMA IS IN POSITION TO ASSUME AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL FUNCTIONS, THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT, IN THE INTEREST OF BOTH COUNTRIES, THE EXISTING FACILITIES LOCATED IN THE FORMER CANAL ZONE AND DETAILED ON THE EN-
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CLOSED MAP SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE AVAILABLE TO THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL AND RELATED SERVICES.

6. IF THE FOREGOING ARRANGEMENT IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF PANAMA, I HAVE THE HONOR TO PROPOSE TO YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT THIS NOTE AND YOUR EXCELLENCY'S AFFIRMATIVE RESPONSE TO IT CONSTITUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN OUR GOVERNMENTS.

7. ACCEPT, EXCELLENCY, THE RENEWED ASSURANCE OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION. END TEXT. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENT DRAFT, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE202609
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JPBECKER:ZC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770306-0629
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770826/aaaaavwp.tel
Line Count: 106
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 937c7053-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY, STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY, STADIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1494062
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PANAMA CANAL TREATY NEGOTIATIONS: FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
TAGS: EAIR, PBOR, PN, US, PQ
To: PANAMA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/937c7053-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009